

Middle East Region Civil Air Patrol

Commanders Update Briefing 11 November 2015



Col John Knowles
MER/CC



MER Staff Briefing



- HC – Chaplain
- HO – Historian
- IG – Inspector General
- JA – Legal
- PA – Public Affairs
- SE – Safety
- A1 – Personnel/Admin
- A3 – Operations
- A4 – Logistics
- A5/8 – Plans and Programs
- A6 – Communications
- A7 – Mission Support
- A7E – Aerospace Education
- A7O – Cadet Programs
- A7P – Professional Development
- A9 – Finance



MER/HC

Lt Col Greg Hill



Top Accomplishments this Period

- October 2015
- Chaplain, Lt Col Strickland, CAP, attended the MER Staff Retreat.
- Continued processing applications for Chaplains and CDIs.
- Provided CDI training for Myrtle Beach Squadron
- Promoted Chaplain Moser, VAWG, to Major, at American Legion Post in Murrells Inlet, SC.

Top Goals next Period

- November 2015
- Wing Commanders and Wing Chaplains urgently recruit CDIs per new CAPR 265-1 guidelines.
- Oversee VAWG Chaplains' Peer Mentor Initiative.
- Collaborate with Chaplain, Lt Col Kennedy, CAP, Deputy MER Chaplain on PhD project contract for a Chaplain Corps seminary training program in DC area.

Risks / Problems

- Not meeting recruiting goal to have at least one chaplain or CDI in each Squadron by 1 Jan 16.
- Inability to establish Chaplain Corps seminary training program in DC area.

Assistance Needed

- Recruitment and retention.
- TOP 3 GOALS: Conducted CCRSC with 14 attendees. 2 were CDIs; Each Squadron in MER have an assigned CDI or Chaplain by 1 Jan 2016; 100% reporting of HC/CDIs on semi-annual electronic reporting.



MER/HO

Maj Joseph Myers



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top 3 Goals for 2015/2016</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Continuing Education course for collections management for CAP Historians. (<i>this course is currently being reviewed prior to rollout</i>)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Promote Professional Development for Historians across the region. Promote the flow of feedback and ideas across the Region.2. Support the development of new Historians in the Region.3. Promote CAP 75th Anniversary activities.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of understanding of the Historian's function• Lack of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage reporting of events at all levels.• Encouragement of Wing Historians to produce and forward Annual Wing History Reports.



MER/IG

Lt Col Cheryl Fielitz-Scarborough



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Complaint resolution – hope to have all issues closed by the end of this week. Working with the wing CC to complete this task.<input type="checkbox"/> SUI's being completed on time in each wing. One unit re-inspect due to Unsat rating.<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Keep DTS and SUI Status out of the RED<input type="checkbox"/> Next IG – After the first of the year (since our conf call falls on the last week of the month)<input type="checkbox"/> Continued discussion as to when and where for our IG Summit 2016. <p>Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Well trained IG Corps2. No MER units in RED for SUI timeline3. Wing IGs submit budget, POA, Cont. books4. Comp Res conducted and closed in timely fashion.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>



MER/JA

Lt Col Tim Corrigan



Top Accomplishments this Period	Top Goals next Period
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Submitted JA 2016 Annual Training PlanParticipated in MER Staff Strategic Planning Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reach out to MER Wing JAs -- invite them to participate in MER JA on-line meeting on Dec 2nd.Circulate and implement 2016 Annual Training Plan
Risks / Problems	Assistance Needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none">None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">None



MER/PA

Maj Brenda Reed



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PIO for SC flood mission• Wrote <i>Volunteer</i> magazine article re: SC flood• Attended MDWG Conference• Wrote PA planning series on PAO blog• Teaching online (beta) TLC; director for online UCC (MDWG)• MER Conference:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- scheduled Vanguard and CAP Historical displays- registration fees approved- session planning begun	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 75th anniversary submissions due from wings by Nov 20• Attend NCWG Conference – speak at PAO session (Dec 5)• MER Conference:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- work with Finance Officer to set up PayPal registration site- design registration forms for website and social media with payment details- send out DV invites with registration info
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<p>Only 3 responses from conference session request: Cadet Programs, Admin (A1) and PAO</p> <p>No response for MER staff assistance at conference</p>	<p>Need MER staff to seriously consider their involvement in the conference and let me know how they plan to help and if they want to have a training session</p>



MER/SE

Maj. Guy Butts



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There are 17 MER Mishaps in the Mishap Reporting Process➤ MER has closed 172 Mishap Reports over the past 365 days➤ Assisted a Member with their E-Services MSO qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Participate in Dec 2015 NC Wing Conference➤ Partner with MER SE's to improve Member Monthly Safety Education participation➤ Begin the online Annual Safety Survey Process
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ MER Monthly Safety Education participation is 16.22% (6/37)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Check Pilots must be aware that they are at an elevated hazard level while performing a CAPF-5



Government Relations Advisor

Lt Col David Argentieri



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<p>Reached out to each Wing GRA and Col John Swain with introduction, etc. and offering assistance. Only DE, SC, VA and Swain responded.</p> <p>Sent SC GRA info on MD past legislative initiatives and the state funding amounts for the rest of the Region.</p> <p>Attended MD Wing conference, had guidance chat with Col Haertel.</p>	<p>Follow up telephone contact with each Wing GRA individually.</p> <p>Conference with Col Swain.</p>
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<p>None at this time.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>



MER/A1

Maj James Brogan



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promotions processed in Oct - FOUR• Awards processed in Oct - TEN• MER Pending: Henderson (MSA)• Attended MER Staff Training/Weekend• A1 ATP completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recruiting and Retention Announcement provided• First MER/A1 teleconference date TBD• Org chart• Recruiting & Retention Officer appointed• A1 Assts.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sertifi NOT optimal (requires FIVE [5] different applications to use)• eCAPF 120 not functional<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Citation not retrievable• Board must use separate system to concur/nonconcur• Future end date not avail (IOT pin it where you win it)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need additional A1 personnel to assist w/ awards/promotion processing/stats/comm for boards• NEED announcement : All docs requiring MER/CC action should be directed to the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ALL Awards: awards@mer.cap.gov• ALL Promotions: promotions@mer.cap.gov• All other correspondence:



MER/DO A3 November 2015 Slide

Lt Col Langley / Maj Stuart



Top Accomplishments this Period

Remember MER staff has AF training budget for our use in maintaining our currency and readiness. Contact the A3e or A3 for sortie entry and approval.

- Stan Eval IPC clinic @ HGR MD went extremely well.
- MER DO has begun holding a quarterly conference call.
- Picked up 4 brand new C-172-S models into the region.
- Participated in the MER Staff Retreat
- Heightened monitoring and coordination of budgets for end of fiscal Year : Emergency services Air Force training, Cadet orientation and Proficiency flying for all seven wings
- Assisted wing DO Counterparts daily as needed.

Top Goals next Period

- Review A/C and Glider usage and report to MER CC.
- Begin Planning for MERSAR 2016 while info and after action items are still fresh in our minds.
- Recruiting and Attempting to Staff the open positions in the Operations A3 Team
- Review and assist wing DO Counterparts daily as needed.



MER/A4

Lt Col David Oldham



Top Accomplishments this Period

- MER OPERATION Beautify – MER Vehicles have been issued new decals and should be on shortly.
- MER Annual Inventory is ongoing and MER Vehicles / Aircraft and Equipment have been completed.
- Lt Col Richardson continues to push monthly vehicle mileage.

Top Goals next Period

- Laptops are in (8) at this time. Any MER Staff member requesting a laptop should send an email to Lt Col Oldham / and copy Col Egry
- Annual Inventory will be completed by 31 DEC 2015
- Vehicle for CAP Use – I have Van 99065 it is a cargo van without windows and only the two front seats (no bench seats in the rear). It is available to MER Staff members on a per use basis for CAP business. As usual, please return it with a full tank of fuel and clean. Hopefully without damage.



Inventory Status Report

MER-DE-001 - DELAWARE WING HQ	Real Property	Completed on 03 Oct 2015
MER-DE-001 - DELAWARE WING HQ	Vehicle	Completed on 03 Oct 2015
MER-DE-001 - DELAWARE WING HQ	Supplies and Equipment	Completed on 06 Nov 2015
MER-DE-001 - DELAWARE WING HQ	Aircraft	Completed on 12 Oct 2015
MER-DE-001 - DELAWARE WING HQ	Comm Gear	Completed on 31 Oct 2015
MER-MD-001 - MARYLAND WING HQ	Real Property	Completed on 05 Nov 2015
MER-MD-001 - MARYLAND WING HQ	Aircraft	Not Complete
MER-MD-001 - MARYLAND WING HQ	Comm Gear	Not Complete
MER-MD-001 - MARYLAND WING HQ	Supplies and Equipment	Not Complete
MER-MD-001 - MARYLAND WING HQ	Vehicle	Not Complete
MER-SC-001 - SOUTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Vehicle	Completed on 05 Oct 2015
MER-SC-001 - SOUTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Real Property	Completed on 09 Nov 2015
MER-SC-001 - SOUTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Aircraft	Not Complete
MER-SC-001 - SOUTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Comm Gear	Not Complete
MER-SC-001 - SOUTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Supplies and Equipment	Not Complete
MER-NC-001 - NORTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Comm Gear	Completed on 01 Nov 2015
MER-NC-001 - NORTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Real Property	Completed on 01 Oct 2015
MER-NC-001 - NORTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Aircraft	Completed on 02 Nov 2015
MER-NC-001 - NORTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Vehicle	Completed on 05 Oct 2015
MER-NC-001 - NORTH CAROLINA WING HQ	Supplies and Equipment	Not Complete
MER-VA-001 - VIRGINIA WING HQ	Real Property	Completed on 02 Nov 2015
MER-VA-001 - VIRGINIA WING HQ	Aircraft	Not Complete
MER-VA-001 - VIRGINIA WING HQ	Comm Gear	Not Complete
MER-VA-001 - VIRGINIA WING HQ	Supplies and Equipment	Not Complete
MER-VA-001 - VIRGINIA WING HQ	Vehicle	Not Complete
MER-DC-001 - NATIONAL CAPITAL WING HQ	Vehicle	Completed on 03 Nov 2015
MER-DC-001 - NATIONAL CAPITAL WING HQ	Real Property	Completed on 05 Oct 2015
MER-DC-001 - NATIONAL CAPITAL WING HQ	Aircraft	Completed on 07 Oct 2015
MER-DC-001 - NATIONAL CAPITAL WING HQ	Comm Gear	Not Complete
MER-DC-001 - NATIONAL CAPITAL WING HQ	Supplies and Equipment	Not Complete
MER-MER-001 - MIDDLE EAST REGION HQ	Aircraft	Completed on 01 Oct 2015



MER/A5/8 Plans and Programs

Lt Col Haertel



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with MER Staff to develop Commander's staff development, guidance strategy, and staff training plan.• Facilitating preparing Strategy 101 briefing, Training Plan 101, and commanders guidance decision support product packages for the Cdrs Development weekend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to establish relationships, roles, and expectations.• Refine duty descriptions and fill section.• Cdrs Development Weekend 22-23 Nov 15
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differences in levels of experience and understanding in planning, operations, and programs across the region. Buy in to this planning process is essential for success.• Learning process method will be iterative based on overall levels of understanding.• New processes need to produce immediate, recognizable, actual results.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patience and involving the right staff officers.• Staff, Wing & Region Commander's buy in.• Provide better tools for commanders in synchronizing and managing outputs.



MER/A6

Lt Col Maurice Thomas



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2016 Region Communications Plan – looking forward• Continued direct support of NHQ-NTC• National Communications Training Program Refinements• Plans for 2016 MER-SAR College on track	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wing Communications Plans to be reviewed• Assessment of needed repair and replacement cycles• National Traffic Net – increase participation Quarterly conference calls or on-air meeting with Wing DC/A6• Be “value-added” asset to wings• Encourage training of technical talent among members, RDO program• Beginning Wreaths Across America planning
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ROS of “live” and irreplaceable assets• ISR radios will not be replaced• VHF handhelds & mobiles in short supply• EFJ not supporting our current equipment• Responsiveness to the “customer” for communications services• Encourage command to utilize/exercise assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reporting of unusual equipment failures• Justification for fielding comm assets• Awareness of maintenance cycles and costs• Minimize the loss of irreplaceable assets• Planning assistance to the wings• Active feedback from DO and CC – focus on command concerns



MER/A7 Col Trick



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to work with Wing PD, CP, AE• New DCS PD identified• New DCS AE Identified• New External DCS AE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AE - Encourage use of STEM kits - new kits/topics coming soon• Revise RCLS curriculum• Schedule Region Staff College
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>



MER/A7E Col Trick



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to work with Wing DAEsSTEM kits to all DAEsNew DCS AE, DCS External AE, identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MER AEO School Planning for 2016Push Brewer Awards, AE Officer of the Year, and Teacher of the Year nominations
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">None	



DCS/CP (A7O) Lt Col Dan Brodsky



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Began planning for MER Warrior Challenge; may run concurrent with MERSAR w/CC approval• CAC fleshing out MER conference ideas• DDR coordinator developed FY16 goals focused on more cadet involvement & integrating drug-free message into all Region CP activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Begin work on RCLS curriculum rewrite• Nail down date/time/location details for Warrior Challenge
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will need a new CAC advisor in the coming months; Capt Fassero will be stepping down• Need to discuss staffing with A7 and CS



MER/A7P Col Trick



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New DCS PD – Lt Col Dunn• Continue to work with Wing PDs<ul style="list-style-type: none">- give assistance with PD courses (TLC, CLC, SLS, UCC) <p>MER Members completing Level V</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lt Col Leonard “Gus” Gostomski MDWG• Lt Col Michael Willis NCWG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning for MER RSC 2016• Get more Master Levels in specialty tracks• Get more members to Level V• Decrease time to Process PD Awards
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>



MER/FM

Lt Col Phyllis Griffin



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Processed all requests for payment/deposits• Processed monthly credit card bill• Attended WV WG Conference• Attended MD WG banquet• Attended MER staff retreat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process all requests for payment/deposits• Reconcile bank accounts• Process credit card bill• Continue train assistant to do credit card
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan to get assistant more involved



MER Command Staff Briefing



- Chief Of Staff
- Region Commander



MER/CS

Col Eugene Egry



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MER Cadet Competition – 25 – 27 SEP• MER Staff Development Workshop - 9-12 OCT• 2014 MER OTY Awards in our possession• WWWG Conference 24 OCT• MDWG Conference 6 – 8 NOV• MER Promotions and Awards now fully in SERTIFI. Backlog cleared except new arrivals.• Worked with Wreaths Across America Project Officer, Col Ziggy Bernfeld, on pre-planning activities• New A7P (DCS PD) – Lt Col Elizabeth Dunn)• New A7E (DCS AE) – Lt Col Thomas K McLellan – will start 1 JAN 2016• New A7EI (Internal AEO) - Maj Fred Clayton Wilkins• New A8L (Government Relations Advisor) - Lt Col Argentieri	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MER/CC Retreat 20-22 NOV• Work with A4 and A6 to complete Annual Inventory NLT 7 DEC• Work with PAO for MER Conference Planning<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Determine MER Staff Presentations• Work with A7 to find new A7EX – External AEO• Work with A6I to transition knowledge to cover gap until new A6I is found• Work with A1 to find new A1D - Director of Recruiting and Retention
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish remaining MER Staff to Wing Staff conference calls. Minimum Quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need help finding A6I, A1D and A7EX



MER/CC

Col John Knowles



- **Staff Plays a Vital Role In EVERYTHING we do in the MER**
- **How are you doing on:**
 - **“Meet” with your Wing Counterparts?**
 - **OPR’s – Review your MER Supplements (coordinate with CS and A1)?**
- **Staff Training– Thanks for your attendance and work on the ATP. MER is setting the standard for CAP!**
- **Inventory is due NLT 7 Dec 15 (please work with your wing counterparts). This date was set by the wing commander’s. Early is OK!**
- **MER Wing Commander’s retreat is this month – let CS know of any issues you are having.**
- **Sorry for missing the call (5 hour time difference – still in “class”**